

Dear Chairman Powell;

Recently I have been contacted by several of my constituents who favor the Echostar / Hughes merger.

I understand the FCC will be holding hearings on this proposed merger in the near future. On behalf of my constituents, I would like to mention a few of the benefits of this proposed merger.

The merger would provide access to better services for television, video and high-speed Internet services for people in rural areas. Since rates would be competitive, these services would be more accessible. This is important, especially to residents without cable access.

This merger would not only enable individuals in rural areas to overcome the barrier of access to technologies, but also businesses and schools. With increased access to services, rural business owners and school children will be able to keep pace with their urban counterparts.

I appreciate your time and consideration of these points. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

KEVIN SHIBILSKI
State Senator
District 24

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